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We are promised a picture of "Oriental magnificence," at Banvard's Opera House very soon, in the shape of a grand spectacular play entitled, the "Devil's Auction," in which the "Black Crook" is to be outstripped and its nakedness put to shame. Wallack's, which has been closed for a week, will probably re-open next Monday evening; in the mean time extensive alterations and decorations have been made in the stage and auditorium. The opening pieces will be a new comedy, "Meg's Diversion," and a new burlesque, "Black Eyed Susan, or the Little Bill that was taken up." A promising programme.

SHUGGE.

Watson's Art Journal.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, SEPT. 21, 1867.

PUBLICATION OFFICE, 836 BROADWAY.

NOTICE TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS IN ARREARS.

We enclose bills to-day to those of our subscribers who have not paid their subscriptions due in April last, and request immediate attention to the same. Our terms are in advance, and it is not fair nor just to neglect so small an affair to individuals, although the aggregate of two or three hundred subscriptions delayed six months after due, is a serious matter to a publisher. We hope for immediate attention to this notice.

To those subscribers who are two or three years in our debt, we presume it is useless to send notification; but we merely suggest that we do not calculate to furnish free reading to those who engaged to pay for it.

WATSON'S ART JOURNAL OFFICE,
806 Broadway.

ITALIAN OPERA.

Mr. Max Maretzek's programme for the first week of his Fall season has been issued, and offers a very varied and excellent selection. The opera chosen for the opening night is Mozart's immortal work Don Giovanni. This opera is considered so sure a card, that it is generally reserved for extra nights, and rarely fails to attract a crowded miscellaneous audience. Mr. Maretzek, however, has awarded its first performance on his opening subscription night, which is literally giving away from three to four thousand dollars—a more liberal movement, we think than circumstances warrant.

The cast of the opera is very strong, the leading rôles being apportioned to Madam Parepa Rosa, Miss A. M. Hauck, Mlle Ronconi; Signor Barag'i, Signor Bellini, and Signor Ronconi. Such a combination of

talent surely guarantees a performance of rare excellence. The chorus will present the usual efficiency, which has become a specialty at this establishment.

The crowning glory of the performance however, will be the execution of Mozart's superb instrumentation by the large and admirable orchestra, under the direction of Carl Bergmann. To listen to this, alone, would be worth a day's journey. With such a selection, and with such a force to carry it out, we cannot but believe the Fall season of the Italian opera will commence most brilliantly.

INHOSPITABLE.—It is said that although Leopold de Meyer has only been in the country a few days, he has already been "sold."

THE FRENCH OPERA COMIQUE.

Mr. Bateman has decided that the inauguration of the season of French Opera Comique, shall be on Tuesday next, September the 24th, on which occasion will be produced, Offenbach's latest success, "The Grand Duchess of Gerolstein." This opera has met with the most extraordinary success not only in Paris, where Offenbach is the humorous divinity, but throughout Europe. Offenbach must be satiated by universal popularity, for his operas, like an epidemic, run through every city of Europe. Wherever one appears it is transferred thence in an incredibly short time, to every city or town that can boast of an opera house.

Offenbach's music is essentially of a light and sparkling character, but it is all thoroughly well written. He is a master both of the vocal and instrumental score, so that while the classicists sneer at his frivolity, (which the people worship) they are compelled to admit his thorough ability. His great forte is said to be his *ensemble* pieces, which are ingenious in their construction, and brilliant and effective in their climaxes. In fact Offenbach is the idol of the amusement seeking public—of those who think there is medicament in a laugh—of those who love sparkling, out-pouring melody, and for these reasons his works leap into popularity, and always enjoy an uninterrupted run of from one hundred to three hundred nights.

We think that Offenbach's music, wedded as it is to ingenious and interesting libretti, will hit the taste of the American public, and will prove permanently attractive. Mr. Bateman has used every exertion that experience could suggest, and has spared no expenss to produce these works in a style of unexceptionable excellence. His company is unusually large and complete, comprising the following artists, some of them of high reputation in Paris:

Mlle. Lucille Tostee,	Mons Guiffroy,
Mlle. Cluquet de Felcourt,	Mons Lucienne,
Mlle. Isabella Armand,	Mons Lagriffoul,
Mlle. Marguerite,	Mons Leduo,
Mlle. Mathilde,	Mons Monier,
Madame Duchêne,	Mons Benedick,
Madame Molier.	Mons Valer.

A full and efficient orchestra and chorus, selected from the principal Parisian theatres by Mr. Bateman, will complete the musical departments of this liberal enterprise. The costumes and appointments which are all imported, are superb, and the scenery has been prepared upon a grand scale, so that if well directed efforts, fine talent, popular works, and lavish expenditure can secure success, Mr. Bateman may count upon a prosperous and brilliant season.

COMFORTING.—We learn that the rumor that Leopold de Meyer has been "sold," is not true. On the contrary, he has been "bought."

BANVARD'S OPERA HOUSE AND MUSEUM.—In addition to the many brilliant artists who are to take part in the new Grand Spectacular and Magical play, "The Devil's Auction," about to be produced at the above establishment, and whose names we recently announced, the following eminent artists arrived last week by the steamer Atlantic from Brest: Mlle. Eumisildi Diani, Mlle. Ernestine Supper and Mons. Giovanni Supper. This will be the strongest and the best ballet company ever presented to the American public.

CORRECTION.—Supposing that de Meyer may be admired, he's been neither "bought" nor "sold," but "hired."

BOOK NOTICES.

We have received from Ticknor & Fields the ninth volume of the Diamond Edition of Dickens. This volume contains the whole of his wonderful novel, "Bleak House," in which he has developed some of his most remarkable characters, and in which he attacked with irresistible power, because truthfully, earnestly and fearlessly, one of the most hopeless, humane, cruel, useless, and how-to-prevent-anything-being-ended institutions that ever encumbered and prevented the course of justice. It has been generally conceded that Dickens is due the total reformation of the Court of Chancery—a Court that was sustained by the wholesale pillage of the young and the old, whose every step was overwithered hopes and broken hearts, and whose code and practice nobly illustrated the old legal joke—a shell for each of the clients, and the oyster for the lawyers.

Mr. S. Eytinge, junr., the illustrator of this edition of Dickens' works, has hardly been as successful in idealizing the strong characters of this work as in some of the preceding numbers; still, he has invested some

with marked individuality, dictated by a keen sense of pathos and humor.

Ticknor and Fields have just issued an elegant Diamond Edition of the complete poetical works of John Greenleaf Whittier. In this volume will be found his two latest compositions—"Snow-Bound" and "The Tent on the Beach;" poems which contain some of his most exquisite thoughts, and much of his finest philosophy. These are alone worth the price of the entire work.

CASSELL'S MAGAZINE.—We have received from Walter Low, 596 Broadway, the first three numbers of Cassell's Magazine, an English publication, which will be issued after 1st of January, 1868, simultaneously with the London edition. During the next three months it will be issued semi-monthly, in order to catch up with the numbers already published in England. No. 4 will appear, therefore, on the 15th of October, instead of the 1st of November. Cassell's is one of the very best amusement magazines published. It contains a vast amount of choice reading matter; novels, stories and poems; original, and written by some of the best writers in England. Its tone is excellent, and its matter is free from that wishy-washy sentimentality which pervades nine-tenths of our story magazines and papers. The illustrations are numerous, and are finely drawn and cut. They are full of character, and are handled with the freedom of master touches. They are a positive attraction to the work, and worthily illustrate the excellent literary matter it contains. We can fully recommend this magazine to the consideration and patronage of our readers.

THE AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY AND NEW YORK TEACHER for October, is received from J. W. Schermerhorn & Co., 430 Broome street. Its contents are very varied, and in the line of its purpose, very valuable. Among the articles worthy of special notice are "Facts and Thoughts about Reform Schools," by Mrs. N. N. Rockwell; "Palafittes, or Locustrian habitations of the Lake Neuchatel," by J. J. Stevenson; and "The Instruction of the People of the 19th Century," by Miss Osgood. Its editorials are sound, and it contains educational news from all parts of the world, besides much interesting miscellaneous matter. It is a wonderfully cheap and useful magazine, the subscription price being only one dollar and fifty cents per year.

DEMOREST'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE for October, is also received. Besides its large and gorgeous colored Fashion plate, it has two full-page pattern plates, numberless smaller cuts, and a paper pattern of the Rendark sleeve and the Rendark peplum skirt. Its literary contents are from the pens of some of our most popular poets and fiction writers. It contains also a charming waltz by Konrad

Treuer, an illustrated poem, and a spirited engraving of American fishing scenes.

Demorest's Magazine is got up in the daintiest possible style, and is essentially the magazine for the ladies, not alone for its beauty, but for the importance of the information it contains.

IMPORTANT.—We have been favored with an advance copy of a forthcoming certificate, which has been stereotyped three thousand times for simultaneous transmission throughout the United States, to wit:—

Hoboken, Kingdom of New Jersey.
To the Illustrious M. or N.*

IMPORTANT SIRS: When I came to this country twenty years ago, I was younger as I am now; and when I come to this country now, I am older as I was then.

Important Gentlemen, I have toyed with that baby thing made by Errard, and I have hammered on that dam beef *roti* thing made by Broadwood; I have broken up smash that Streicher in Vienna, and I have spat much upon that Boston Machines, and have shook from my feet the dust of the Athens in Amerique before I shall go there, and I have done a good many several things several times when I went everywhere; but, Important Gentlemen, I have much reasons, eight to twenty thousand of him, to say that I have toy, I have hammer, I have smash on your grandissimo Pianos, and I have knock nothing out of him! I cannot knock nothing out of him, and I shall play on him always, because I cannot knock anything out of him.

From the Illustrious et plus Celebre Pianist.
LION DE MEYER.

* We omit the name of the Firm for the obvious reason that the native modesty of its members inclines them to shun every species of notoriety.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SEPTEMBER 17, 1867.

HENRY C. WATSON, Esq.:

DEAR SIR:—You will confer a great favor by publishing the enclosed in your valuable paper. Your ob't serv't.

GEO. H. GARDNER.

HARLEM, Sept. 2, 1867.

J. E. PERRING Esq.,

DEAR SIR:—At a special meeting of the Association held on Monday evening last, the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, A public notice having appeared in a Musical Journal to the effect that the leadership of this Association has been offered to another than our usual conductor, and

Whereas, It is ascertained on inquiry, that no such offer has been made by any one having the requisite authority from the Association to make it, therefore

Resolved, That we should look with regret upon any circumstance tending to dissolve the connection between the Association and its esteemed Conductor, Mr. J. E. Perring.

GEO. H. GARDNER,
Secretary Harlem Musical Association.

SARATOGA, 25th Aug., 1867.

HENRY C. WATSON Esq., New York.

MY DEAR MR. WATSON:—Being lazy as regards letter-writing, is one of my strongest points always, but particularly when I am enjoying myself at some beautiful spot in the country; in this case I am neglectful, or seemingly so, to a degree that startles even my best and most far-hearing friends.

When I speak about beautiful country, do not for an instant suppose I refer to Saratoga—no indeed! There are three reasons, occurring to me, for which people come here to be victimized by the many-fold discomforts of a fashionable watering-place: Firstly, to be sent there by special command of some part, external or internal, of one's all-ruling body; secondly, to yield to one's curiosity, having never been to this celebrated place before; and thirdly, because of being able during the following winter season in New York or elsewhere, to say, as languidly and unconcerned as possible, of course, that one had looked in at Saratoga, to see "if anybody was there," or "what was going on," &c. Watering places seem to resemble one another all over the world; it is a theme apparently capable of no variations, baffling the skill of even a *Hunter* or a *Beyar*!

I have, in my travels in Europe, been to many fine places, but I must say that very few, indeed, surpass, or even equal Cooperstown in its peculiar style of beauty; nothing is exaggerated in the romantic descriptions given by the author of "Deerslayer," indeed very little stretching of imagination is necessary to fancy the Ark of old Hutter drifting about Otsego lake even now, and at some places, where the axe has respected the green old age of the bordering trees. One would scarcely be surprised to see a couple of Indians leap into the cooling water.

You will learn by the accompanying paper, that music has not intirely neglected by me since I left New York. The concert the article refers to, was got up for the benefit of Miss Doubleday, the very deserving Organist of the Episcopal church, at Cooperstown, and I am glad to say, it was quite a success even in point of money.

COOPERSTOWN, 18 Sept.—Since the above I have been to Canada; admired Montreal, and felt interested in old Quebec, been disappointed in the "Saguenay River," and found "Ha Ha Bay" a perfect *takein*. On my way back from Canada, I saw the beautiful lake Champlain, and lake George, with all its splendour; the scenery on and about these lakes is really wonderfully fine.

Hoping soon to see you, I remain, dear Mr. Watson,

Sincerely Yours,

L. SEVERINZ.

ROSALIE MARA.

The palace of the French ambassador at Vienna, was brilliantly illuminated; servants, in splendid liveries, were to be seen passing through the hall; and fashionable equipages containing the beauty and nobility of the Austrian capital, dashed continually through the crowd collected at the palace doors. To inquiries addressed by strangers, the good-humored Viennese would reply that there was a wedding to be celebrated, and the crowd attracted by this, increased in numbers. It was true they could only see an occasional shadow, as some form passed the heavy curtains of the reception room; and they could only hear an occasional subdued